

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:
a menu storage unit storing characteristic menu information including a plurality of commands corresponding to applications;
a menu window displaying a first menu using the characteristic menu information stored in said menu storage unit, the first menu allowing activation of an application; and
a menu development unit which discriminates an application that is activated and causes the menu window to display a second menu using said characteristic menu information corresponding to the discriminated application

wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the discriminated application, ~~a predetermined menu is displayed, and~~ said menu development unit determines which commands among commands for the active application are executable using key codes and said determined commands are used for the characteristic menu information.

~~wherein each menu item in the second menu is composed of key codes serving as commands for the application.~~

2. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a menu execution unit executing a processing corresponding to a menu item selected from said second menu.

3. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:
a menu storage unit storing characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications;
a menu window displaying a first menu using the characteristic menu information stored in said menu storage unit, the first menu allowing activation of an application; and
a menu development unit discriminating whether at least one of the plurality of applications is active and displaying a second menu corresponding to the discriminated application using said characteristic menu information;

wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the discriminated application, ~~the menu development unit displays a predetermined menu~~ said menu development unit determines which commands among commands for the active application are executable

using key codes and said determined commands are used for the characteristic menu information, and

wherein said second menu allows selecting and activating at least one other of the plurality of applications.

4. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:
a menu development unit discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed and displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated at least one application using characteristic menu information corresponding to the at least one application;
~~wherein said menu development unit displays a predetermined menu on the screen if there is no stored characteristic menu information corresponding to the at least one application.~~
wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the discriminated application, said menu development unit determines which commands among commands for the active application are executable using key codes and said determined commands are used for the characteristic menu information.

5. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 4, ~~wherein said predetermined menu is~~ if no application is being executed, the menu development unit displays a launcher menu for starting the applications.

6. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein if a menu item is selected from said first menu or said second menu, the respective first or second menu is deleted from the screen.

7. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information processing apparatus comprises an indication unit indicating display of said first menu and said menu development unit discriminates the application activated if an indication of said indication unit is detected.

8. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said indication unit is a device consisting of a scroll-up button and a scroll-down button for changing selection of the menu item from said first menu and a defined button for determining the selected menu item.

9. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said defined button is operated to thereby indicate the display of said second menu.

10. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said defined button is arranged between said scroll-up button and said scroll-down button.

11. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said scroll-up button and said scroll-down button are a seesaw switch provided with a pair of switch contacts operating by depressing one of operation regions on both ends of a switch knob, and said defined button is a push button switch arranged in a hole formed at a center of said switch knob.

12. (Original) An information processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said indication unit is provided in front of a keyboard.

13. (Previously Presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the information processing apparatus comprises:
a cover on which a display is arranged;
a main body on which said keyboard is arranged; and
a coupling section coupling the cover to the main body.

14. (Currently Amended) A menu processing method for displaying a menu on a screen, comprising:
discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and
displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated application using the characteristic menu information corresponding the discriminated application, menu items of the menu being composed of commands of the discriminated application that are executable using key codes serving as commands in applications, wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the discriminated application a predetermined menu is displayed.

15. (Previously Presented) A menu processing method according to claim 14, comprising executing a processing corresponding to a menu item selected from said menu.

16. (Currently Amended) A menu processing method for displaying a menu on a screen comprising:

discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and
displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated application based on a discriminating result while using characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications;

~~wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the discriminated application, a predetermined menu is displayed~~

wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the discriminated application, commands of the discriminated application that are executable using key codes are used for the characteristic menu information, and

wherein if the discriminated application for which said menu information exists is being executed, at least one other of the plurality of applications is selected from the menu of the executing application and activated.

17. (Currently Amended) A menu processing method for displaying a menu on a screen, comprising:

discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and
displaying a menu corresponding to the at least one discriminated application based on a discriminating result while using characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications;

~~wherein a predetermined menu is displayed on the screen if there is no stored characteristic menu information corresponding to the at least one discriminated application~~

wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the discriminated application, commands of the discriminated application that are executable using key codes are used for the characteristic menu information.

18. (Currently Amended) A menu processing method according to claim 17, wherein ~~said predetermined menu is~~ if no application is being executed, the menu development unit displays a launcher menu for starting the applications.

19. (Original) A menu processing method according to claim 14, wherein if a menu item is selected from said menu, the menu is deleted from the screen.

20. (Previously Presented) A menu processing method according to claim 14, comprising indicating display of said menu, and the executing application is discriminated if an indication is detected.

21. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium recording a menu processing program, the menu processing program allowing a computer to execute the operations of:

discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated application based on a discriminating result while using said characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications, the characteristic menu information being used to configure menu items composed of commands of the discriminated application that are executable using key codes and serving as commands in the plurality of applications, wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the discriminated application, a predetermined menu is displayed.

22. (Original) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 21, wherein said menu processing program conducts a processing corresponding to a menu item selected from said menu.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium recording a menu processing program allowing a computer to execute the operation of:

discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated application based on a discriminating result while using characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications;

wherein if the discriminated application for which said menu information exists is being executed, at least one other of the plurality of applications is selected from the executing discriminated application and activated, and

wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the discriminated application, ~~a predetermined menu is displayed~~commands of the discriminated application that are executable using key codes are used for the characteristic menu information.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium recording a menu processing program allowing a computer to execute the operation of:

discriminating whether at least one of a plurality of applications is being executed; and displaying a menu corresponding to the discriminated application based on a discriminating result while using characteristic menu information corresponding to the plurality of applications;

wherein if an application, for which said menu information does not exist, is being executed, ~~a predetermined menu is displayed~~ commands of the discriminated application that are executable using key codes are used for the characteristic menu information.

25. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 24, wherein ~~said predetermined menu is~~ if no application is being executed, the menu development unit displays a launcher menu for starting the applications.

26. (Previously Presented) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 21, wherein if a menu item is selected from said menu, said menu processing program deletes the menu from the screen.

27. (Previously Presented) A computer readable recording medium according to claim 21, wherein an indication of display of said menu is detected, and the executing application is discriminated if said indication is detected.

28. (Currently Amended) A menu processing method, comprising:
storing menu characteristic information corresponding to a plurality of applications, the menu characteristic information being used to configure menu items composed of key codes serving as commands in applications;

determining whether an activated control activates at least one of the plurality of applications; and

displaying a menu for the activated application where the menu includes the menu items configured based on the menu characteristic information corresponding to the activated application, wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the activated application, ~~a predetermined menu is displayed~~ commands of the discriminated application that are executable using key codes are used for the characteristic menu information.

29. (Currently Amended) An information processing method, comprising:
storing characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications, the

characteristic menu information being used to configure menu items composed of key codes serving as commands in applications;

performing a test to determine whether at least one of the plurality of applications is executing; and

displaying a menu corresponding to the at least one executing application on a screen using said menu items when the test determined the at least one executing application wherein if no characteristic menu information corresponds to the at least one executing application, ~~a predetermined menu is displayed~~ commands of the discriminated application that are executable using key codes are used for the characteristic menu information.

30. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

storing characteristic menu information corresponding to a plurality of applications, the characteristic menu information being used to configure menu items composed of key codes serving as commands in applications;

discriminating whether at least one of the plurality of applications is started and displaying a menu corresponding to the started application on a screen using said menu items; and

displaying ~~a predetermined menu~~ commands of the discriminated application that are executable using key codes when no characteristic menu information corresponding to the started application is stored.

31. (Previously Presented) A system, comprising:

a storage storing application menus of applications that run in different screens and an application launcher menu, the application launcher menu being composed of key codes serving as commands in applications;

a menu activation button; and

a computer and display system performing a test to determine if an application corresponding to a menu of the application menus is executing and displaying the menu corresponding to the executing application when the application corresponding to the menu of the application menus is executing and displaying the application launcher menu when an application corresponding to one of the application menus is not executing, and wherein if no menu corresponding to the executed application exists, a predetermined menu is displayed.